

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed October 19, 2004 (the "Office Action"). At the time of the Office Action, Claims 9-14 were pending in the Application. Applicants amend Claims 9, 12, and 13. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

Subject Matter Indicated as Allowable

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's statement that Claims 9-14 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection to claims under 37 C.F.R. 1.75. Claims 9, 12, and 13 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 9-14.


CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending claims.

If the present application is not allowed and/or if one or more of the rejections is maintained, Applicants hereby request a telephone conference with the Examiner and further request that the Examiner contact Chad C. Walters, Attorney for Applicants, at the Examiner's convenience at (214) 953-6511 to schedule the telephone conference.

Applicants believe no additional fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
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Date: December 20, 2004

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